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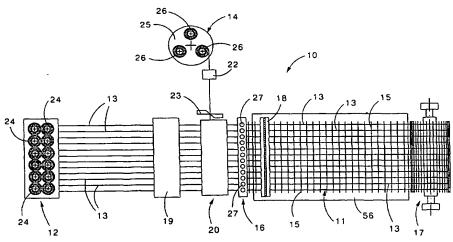
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(54) Title: MACHINE FOR THE FORMATION OF METAL MESH AND RELATIVE METHOD



(57) Abstract: Machine (10) for the formation of a metal mesh (11) obtained by attaching together a plurality of longitudinal metal wires (13) to a plurality of transverse metal wires (15). The machine (10) comprises a first feed assembly (12) to make the longitudinal wires (13) advance step-wise, a second feed assembly (14) to arrange one transverse wire (15) at a time in a first preparation position, a positioning apparatus to arrange the transverse wire (15) in a second attachment position, and a welding assembly (16) to attach the transverse wires (15) to the longitudinal wires (13). The positioning apparatus comprises a loading assembly (30), provided with a gripping and transfer device (31), in order to locate the transverse wire (15) in the second attachment position. The machine (10) also comprises thrust means (33) to take the transverse wire (15) from the first preparation position to a third intermediate pick-up position, near the second attachment position, wherein the transverse wire (15) is picked up by the gripping and transfer device (31). The thrust means (33) comprises a rotary element (52) provided with blade means (54) able to thrust the transverse wire (15) from the first preparation position to the third intermediate pick-up position.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT IB 03/02331 CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C 7 B21F23/00 B21F B21F27/10 B21F27/20 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 **B21F** Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category * Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 4 539 457 A (PINGER EGON ET AL) 1,2,14, A 17,20 3 September 1985 (1985-09-03) cited in the application column 5, line 51 - column 7, line 3; figures PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1-3 vol. 1997, no. 01, 31 January 1997 (1997-01-31) -& JP 08 243763 A (SANYO DENKI KK), 24 September 1996 (1996-09-24) abstract WO 95 06532 A (BERNARDINIS CLAUDIO 1.4 ;ZEBELLONI CARINO (IT)) 9 March 1995 (1995-03-09) page 5, line 15 - page 6, line 7; claim 1; figure 2 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 26 November 2003 03/12/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,

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